

1. The reply filed on 5/15/08 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant has failed to provide any response to the rejection of claims 39-53 and 55-131 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrel et al. (US 6,230,173) in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485) further in view of Brugger (US 6,636,276). Applicant has additionally failed to provide any response to the rejection of claim 54 as being unpatentable over Ferrel et al. (US 6,230,173) in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485) further in view of Brugger (US 6,636,276) further in view of Fernandez (US 4,855,725). See 37 CFR 1.111.

2. Since the Office action of 12/4/2006 merely maintained the rejections previously set forth in the Office action of 6/14/2005 (See §6 of the Office action of 12/4/06), and did not recite the rejections again, the currently pending rejections have been recited below to prevent any misunderstanding regarding which references are currently being relied upon.

3. Claims 132-134, 137-138, 139-141, 144 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brugger US (5,636,276). (See pp. 3-4 of Office action of 6/14/05).

4. Claims 135, 136, 142 and 143 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brugger (US 5,636,276) in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485). (See p. 4 of Office action of 6/14/05).

5. Claims 39-53 and 55-131 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrel et al. (US 6,230,173) in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485) further in view of Brugger (US 6,636,276). (See pp. 5-11 of Office action of 6/14/05).

6. Claim 54 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrel et al. (US 6,230,173) in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485) further in view of Brugger (US 6,636,276) further in view of Fernandez (US 4,855,725). (See pp. 11-12 of Office action of 6/14/05).

7. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AARON STRANGE whose telephone number is (571)272-3959. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron Strange/
Examiner, Art Unit 2153